Progress report on the motion on "Immediately reviewing the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme" moved by the Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong at the Legislative Council Meeting on 10 June 2009

This paper reports on the actions taken by the Administration following the motion on "Immediately Reviewing the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme" moved by Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong. The motion, as amended by Hon Starry LEE Wai-king and Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, was passed at the Legislative Council (LegCo) Sitting on 10 June 2009.

- 2. The Administration noted Members' views expressed during the motion debate on 10 June 2009. At the meeting of the Executive Council on 16 June 2009, the Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that -
 - (a) similar to the arrangement before the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme (PEVS), the fee remission ceilings under the Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission Scheme (KCFRS) should be adjusted annually starting from the 2009/10 school year onwards on the basis of the respective weighted average fees of the non-profit-making half-day and whole-day kindergartens (KGs) eligible for PEVS to ensure a reasonable choice of eligible and affordable KGs for needy families, and
 - (b) the Administration should kick start the review process later in the year. Pending the outcomes of the review, the other policy parameters of PEVS, including the value of the voucher, would remain unchanged.
- 3. Pursuant to Executive Council's decision, a LegCo Brief was issued on 17 June 2009 and the subject was discussed by LegCo's Panel on Education at its meeting on 22 June 2009. On 3 July 2009, LegCo's Finance Committee approved the reinstatement of an annual adjustment mechanism for the fee remission ceilings under the KCFRS with effect from the 2009/10 school year to ensure children's continued access to a reasonable choice of affordable KGs. The Administration will kick start a review on PEVS later this year.

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